

Using the Armor of God

(Ephesians 6:10-18)

Introduction

For the past few weeks, we have been learning about the spiritual battle we are in with God's enemy, Satan. So, we have been studying the pieces of a Roman soldier's armor and how they relate to our spiritual walk with Jesus.

Now we need to figure out how to use all these pieces of the Christian soldier's armor in everyday life. You don't want to be caught with your shield down or your sword stuck in its sheath or you'll be exposed to Satan's attacks. But it gets a little complicated sometimes to remember just how to put on the Armor of God and how to use it.

Opening Prayer

Lord, it's great that You gave us a way to do combat with our enemy, but I pray that this morning you will teach us just how to use our spiritual armor in our battles with the enemy of our souls. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Memory Verse

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. (Ephesians 6:10-11 ESV)

Lesson

The enemy of our souls can start shooting his flaming arrows into our thought life the moment we wake up!

Ask: How many of you have awakened in the morning with a bad attitude?

His lies do not line up with God's Word and can drag your mood down before you even step out of bed!

Some of the wrong things he tempts you to believe can be:

- I don't want to get out of bed.
- I don't want to go to school.

Next thing you know, you're complaining about everything:

- I don't want to wear that today!
- I don't want to eat the breakfast you fixed!

Those thoughts make you cranky and unpleasant to everyone else in the family. And you start to argue with your mom and your siblings.

Satan's lies steal your peace. So, you must be very careful to recognize what the enemy is trying to do.

The best way to extinguish Satan's lies is to remember the truth! You fight the battle with the enemy by replacing the wrong thoughts he puts into your mind with the truth of God's word.

Lamentations 3:21-23

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Notice what this says, "call to mind." You have to make it a point to remember something.

Ask: What does this verse tell us to call to mind?

Hope, love, mercy, and faithfulness. These are the things you need to think about instead of the wrong thoughts the enemy tempts you to think about.

Satan wants you to be angry, cranky, mean, disobedient, and ungrateful. He wants to turn your life into misery.

Purposely remembering the truth of God's word helps you do battle with Satan. When we set our minds on the truths of God, we immediately have the peace of God which is what we are all truly longing for, isn't it?

So, this week, to learn how to use God's word to extinguish the fiery darts of the enemy, we are going to play a game called "*Match the Situation.*"

[Teacher, find the **Match the Situation Game**, **Situation Cards**, and the **Situation Verse Flash Cards** to use with this exercise on my website.

Depending on your class's size, reading skills, and spiritual maturity, decide how many "Situations" to use for this exercise. Set the Situation Verse Flash Cards, in random order out for the class to see. You may want to read through the verses with your class before you begin. Then either have each child draw a Situation Card to read out loud to the class; or, you can read the scenario to the class. Allow each child to have a turn choosing a verse that would help them in that particular situation; or, you can divide the class into teams and award points to the team that picks the correct verse first.

Be sure to reinforce the idea that we must use God's word to do battle with the enemy. He is constantly tempting us to sin against God. So, we must learn to replace those wrong thoughts the enemy shoots into our minds like fiery darts with "God thoughts" – the Word of God.]

Closing Prayer

Lord, thank You so much for teaching us all about the special armor You have provided us. Help us to remember to use it so that we can stand firm against the enemy of our hearts and souls. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Learning Activities

Game Center

Armor Matching Word Search

Let the children work on the *Armor Matching* word search, or send it home as a "take home" paper.

Armor of God Bingo Game

Play Bingo using the *Armor of God Bingo Cards* found on my website.

[For more lessons for children, visit
<https://www.freechildrensministrylessons.com>]